

**Town of Amherst  
Board of Zoning Appeals**

**February 12, 2007**

A meeting of the Town of Amherst Board of Zoning Appeals was called to order by Chairman Mays at 5:55 PM on February 12, 2007 in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall. Members Willie Diggs, William Hopkins, Paul Kilgore, Gary Mays and William Olinger were present. Town Manager Jack Hobbs was present in his capacity as Secretary to the Board.

The Chair noted that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mr. Diggs gave an invocation.

Mr. Diggs made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Hopkins to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the March 13, 2006 meeting. The motion carried 5-0 with Messrs. Diggs, Hopkins, Kilgore, Mays and Olinger voting in favor of the motion.

**Election of Officers**

Chairman Mays asked Mr. Hobbs to chair the meeting during the election of officers.

Acting Chairman Hobbs opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. Mr. Kilgore nominated Mr. Mays for Chairman, and the nomination was seconded by Mr. Hopkins. There being no additional nominations, the floor was closed. Mr. Mays was elected Chairman on a 4-0 vote with Messrs. Diggs, Hopkins, Kilgore, and Olinger voting for Mr. Mays and Mr. Mays abstaining. Mr. Mays resumed as Chairman for the remainder of the meeting.

The floor was then opened for nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr. Diggs nominated Mr. Kilgore, and the nomination was seconded by Mr. Olinger. There being no other nominations, nominations were declared closed. Mr. Kilgore was elected Vice Chairman on a 4-0 vote with Messrs. Diggs, Hopkins, Mays, and Olinger voting for Mr. Kilgore and Mr. Kilgore abstaining.

Mr. Diggs made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Hopkins to appoint Mr. Hobbs as Secretary. The motion carried 5-0 with Messrs. Diggs, Hopkins Kilgore, Mays and Olinger voting in favor of the motion.

**Variance Application: Mt. Olive Baptist Church - 160 W. Court Street**

The Secretary reported that an application for a variance had been received according to the following draft advertisement:

*The Town of Amherst Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing at \_\_\_\_ A/PM on \_\_\_\_\_, 2007 in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 186 South Main Street.*

*The subject of the hearing is an application by Mt. Olive Baptist Church for a variance to Section 18.1-804 of the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance. If approved, an addition to the existing church at 160 W. Court Street could be built as close as 18' to the front property line. This property (TM# 96A4-A-32) fronts on Mt. Olive Road and is zoned Light Commercial District B-1 which requires a 50' front yard.*

*Documents relating to the requests are available for public inspection in the Town Hall during normal working hours.*

Paul Higginbotham and Virgil Coleman came forward on behalf of the applicant to explain the request and answer questions from the Board. After some discussion, the Board agreed to set the time and date for the required public hearing as March 6 at 6:00 PM.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Hopkins made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Kilgore to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 PM. The motion carried 5-0 with Messrs. Diggs, Hopkins, Kilgore, Mays and Olinger voting in favor of the motion.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Mays  
Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary